

# Obama has edge in polls

## US president, Romney in do-or-die dash to the finish



**SLIGHT LEAD** Barack Obama is favored to retain the White House.

WASHINGTON—US President Barack Obama and Republican challenger Mitt Romney made a frenetic dash to a series of crucial swing states on Monday, delivering their final arguments to voters on the last day of an extraordinarily close race for the White House.

After a long, bitter and expensive campaign, national polls show Obama and Romney are essentially deadlocked ahead of Tuesday's election, although Obama has a slight advantage in the nine battleground states that will decide the winner—Ohio, Florida, Virginia, North Carolina, Colorado, Nevada, Wisconsin, Iowa and New Hampshire.

The most recent NBC/Wall Street Journal poll, released on Sunday, showed Obama getting the support of 48 percent of likely voters, with Romney receiving 47 percent. The poll had a margin of error of 2.5 percentage points.

The final national poll from Pew Research Center found Obama with a 3-point edge over

OBAMA A-1

### 17 Fil-Ams running for nat'l, state positions

By Nilda U. Rueda

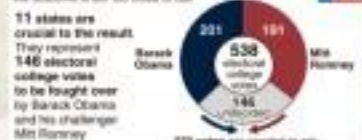
LOS ANGELES—On Nov. 6, all eyes will be on the White House, but many Filipino-Americans are also wondering who'll elect them.

There are 17 Fil-Ams running for seats in the US House of Representatives, and 15 others are running for the California State Assembly, Hawaii House of Representatives and

17/IN-APR A-1

### Key states in the US election 2012

Two days before the US presidential election, the outcome is still too close to call.



**CHALLENGER** Mitt Romney is battling for world's top job.

## EU supports Asean approach to sea row

VIENTIANE, Laos—In meetings yesterday with President Aquino, leaders of the European Union (EU), Switzerland, and Norway declared support for an Asian approach to the territorial

disputes in the West Philippine Sea (South China Sea). Secretary Herminio Garcia of the Presidential Communications Operations Office told

EU SUPPORTS A-1

**Aquino defends foreign trips, says GMA had more mileage**  
**GMA still batt of P-Roy jabs in Laos** • President vows to fast-track compensation for rights victims / A-11

**ON LANG, BASTA SUPRA CASANO ENGLISH!**

**Broubaba over sign language bill**

By Gil Cabergan and Julia M. Aurelio

EVER those who cannot bear have the right to be heard. And so the national debate on whether to use English as Filipino as the medium of instruction in schools is being echoed in the "silent audio."

ACT Teachers' Rep. Arlene Bricanias / A-11

## Senate showdown on sin tax bill looms

By Cathy Tannen Michael Lin-Urac and Marissa Brizuela

SENATORS with varying positions on how much sin taxes should be raised appear headed for a showdown on the Senate today as debate on the controversial measure

continues. In one corner sits Franklin Drilon, acting chair of the Senate ways and means committee, who is set to introduce the controversial report sponsored by cigarette giant Philip Morris and work on raising sin taxes

SENATE A-11

## Bumpy road to Oscars for PH film on faithful dog

A **PHILIPPINE** movie about a grumpy old, gay man and his faithful dog has become an unlikely hit almost while shaking the belief that local independent films have to focus on the darker side of life.

The film, "Brokens," named after the dog in the movie, is the Philippines' entry for an Academy Award for best foreign film. While standing little chance of being short-listed, its heart-warming story is winning rave reviews overseas.

It tells the story of Ben, a retired citizen who only recently realized he was homosexual. Confused and lonely, he finds

OSCAR A-11

## Crusade vs political dynasties launched

By Jocelyn R. Uy

A **LITTLE-KNOWN** entrepreneur who has convinced election officials he is not a "dynasty" candidate for senator has his eyes set on ending political dynasties.

Ricardo Pasion, 68, yesterday launched in a news conference what he called Crusade

Against Dynasty, or Kontra, and challenged fellow senatorial candidates to sign a pact that would end a few families' dominance of the country's political landscape.

The president and CEO of Acropolis Tailwinds Corp., a purveyor of the Sotomayor 1570-La Mesa-San Jose del Monte

CRUSADE A-11



## Mercado Offers A Sumptuous Dinner Treat for the Family

Herndon, Reston World Market's buffet restaurant which serves the best of Filipino cuisine representing the country's different regions, will once again offer your taste buds with its latest offering—Pepay Festival.

Following the culinary journey featuring distinctive Laon dishes, Diner, experience a unique taste of the Visayas region this November with mouthwatering meat such as Balauas, brewed beef with peanut sauce, special treats and spices. World's Top Trip food togetherness in Diner Dining Herndon, or have a special kind of food for Christmas and God bless with Singing and more.

Come with your family and friends at Mercado and enjoy the updated Pepay Festival for only P299+ every Thursday of November, from 5pm to 10pm.

Also this November comes the much-awaited Grand Feast 2012 which features more of what Filipino can offer to serve at Casa, Arts and Entertainment. For more information visit [www.mercado.com](http://www.mercado.com) or call Tourist's Visitor Hotline at (703) 634-8233.





# Obama voted on Smartmatic

## The Philippines too

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◀ October 26th, 2012.  
Obama votes for the US presidential election.  
Chicago, Illinois

On October 25, the President of the USA made history when he became the first US President to cast an early vote using a modern touch screen electronic voting machine designed, manufactured, and supplied to the election authorities in Chicago by Smartmatic. "I just want everybody to see what an incredibly efficient process this was," said President Obama.

Amidst an intense political campaign, the incumbent President headed to the Martin Luther King Community Center in Chicago, Illinois, to exercise early voting, a system that might be key to his re-election. "This is the first time a President is ever going to be early voting" said Mr. Obama at the polling center.

Chicago and Cook County in Illinois are among the most advanced and sophisticated jurisdictions in the US for voting automation, including even precinct consolidation and secure transmission of results. Both jurisdictions use voting machines produced by Smartmatic, the industry thought leader that introduced the concept of voter verified paper audit trails in a national election in 2004.



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## Unfazed Bartolome keeps working

By Matthew Brennan

**PHILIPPINE** National Union of Teachers Confined Members' Resolutions remaining unratified by parliament require President Aquino's approval to stop dissolution of his leadership retirement in

There are no changes in (Shalton's) results. He goes around conducting meetings and supervising police units," Chief Supt. Giovanni Carbo is said in a news briefing.

### Saudi probes Pinoy driver

THE DEPARTMENT OF Foreign Affairs said yesterday a Filipino truck driver was being investigated for the gas tanker explosion that occurred last week on a highway in Riyadh, Saudi Arabia.

DFA Assistant Secretary and spokesperson Raul Formanides did not identify the driver but said he knew, spread Philippine Ambassador Leonardo Yago as saying he was Sultan Rahmeh, who has been working in Riyadh for a year.

Hindus and Jains were to be killed in the criminal cases. Special order in Mysore that was not allowed to see him "the man"

"We are prepared to help him with legal representation," he added.

Hernandez said the Filipino had not been charged but was being investigated for allegedly causing the accident that killed 21 persons and injured more than 1,000 others.

Eight injured Filipinos have been discharged from the hospital while six others remain confined in local hospitals in the South capital. (Oswine D. Alameda)

"The moral of the 1980 deal is that he serves as the pleasure of the President. He will comply with what would serve the best interests of the country and the police organization," Gotsch said optimistically.

has reached the mandatory retirement age (of 65) on March 30, 2003.<sup>12</sup>

He also displayed concern that some police officers had wanted that the President's decision to release Ramirez early might result in "disenfranchisement" among some police officers.

Last week, Interior Secretary Ken Salazar estimated the Agency's production that, Bristow's insurance will be the policy of the INP at the earliest possible time to prepare for the May 2013 elections.

As an institution, he said, the IMF "understands that such a transition was normal as it's not really a big issue."

Parbury's designation back to the POF tradition, which more readily assigns the POF deputy chief for operations as head of the overall task force on disaster-related tasks, was not a surprise.

## Senate passes early voting bill for media

THE SENATE approved on third and final reading a bill that will allow members of the media to vote earlier than other voters in the May 2013 elections.

The concert, authored by José Manuel Villal, was sponsored on the stage by Spanish educational institutions: chair Aquilino Posada R.

The media situation, however, would only be allowed to exist for the president, vice president, senators and parliament representatives.

<sup>2</sup>The limitation is purposely made to make it jibe with the limitations set forth in Executive Order No. 117, as amended.

oil, that grants the same privileges to other groups of people in even earlier than election day and to minimize confusion among voters concerned with the implementation of the bill.

only it becomes less? Please explain.

Other nations granted the same privilege include members of the Armed Forces of the Philippines, Philippine National Police and other government of Scouts and employees who have to report for duty on election day under Republic Act No.

The Senate will limit the privilege to studio members who registered with the Commission on Electronic Commerce during the registration period.

Media members must always consider accreditation as recommended by the media unit. It also empowers them. They could only vote on the day listed by the Gazette in the city or municipality where their media unit has been established in mass or media office. (Cathy Simons)



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# Solidarity Message from Multi-Sectoral RH Advocates



## ASSURES SUSTAINABLE HUMAN DEVELOPMENT, WOMEN'S RIGHTS, MATERNAL AND INFANT HEALTH AND REDUCTION OF ABORTION RATES

- No agenda on sustainable human development is likely to succeed without the government simultaneously and positively addressing the population issue.
- The hallmark of the RH bill is freedom of informed choice. There is neither compulsion nor reward for people who practice family planning.
- In exercise of the State's police power, Congress can legislate a law giving Filipinos access to reproductive health care services and mandating that contraceptives be given for free to acceptors who are poor and marginalized.
- The RH bill does not promote abortion. Consistent with the Constitution and the Revised Penal Code, the bill reiterates that abortion is illegal and punishable. In fact, regular and correct use of contraceptives will reduce the incidence of abortion by as much as 85% because high-risk and unwanted pregnancies, which are the ones aborted, are avoided. The current data on the incidence of abortion in the Philippines document more than 300,000 induced abortions annually.
- Contraceptives are medically safe. Decades of medical research have considerably reduced the risks of contraceptives, which are minimal compared to the risks of pregnancy. There is no law prohibiting the manufacture, distribution and use of contraceptives. They are approved and certified by the Food and Drug Administration (FDA) and are classified by the WHO as essential medicines.
- Family planning is cost-effective. Guttmacher/Likhaan studies reveal that "for every peso spent in family planning, around 3 to 100 pesos will be saved in maternal care costs for unintended pregnancies." In 1992 the UNICEF asserted that: "family planning can bring more benefits to more people at less cost than any other single technology now available to the human race." Clearly, no amount of increasing budgetary allocations will be enough if the population problem is not adequately addressed.
- The RH bill is not a population control measure; it has no demographic target.
- Filipinos have spoken for the RH bill. The SWS documents that 71% of Filipinos favor the enactment of the bill and in another survey it confirms that even Catholics overwhelmingly approve of its enactment with 71% supporting the measure versus only 68% of non-Catholics.
- The RH bill is multi-faceted. It is not limited to family planning and the promotion of all methods from the natural to the modern which are medically safe, legal and effective. The other elements range from infant and child health to treatment of infertility, sexuality education and men's participation in RH.
- Significant amendments are acceptable to clarify and obviate objections and reservations on the RH bill without surrendering the essence of the measure.

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# US election a hit among Chinese

WUHAN—Where else on a popular news site is talk about the 2012 US presidential election? In China, where Guo Xiaomeng's straightforward explanations of the system drew more than 1 million hits in four days.

Chinese have long been fascinated with US presidential elections, but interest is particularly high this year because there's a new player in the game. Being a voting through a mass political transition, a general election of Communist Party leaders will replace down next week to make way for younger candidates who a highly secure election process.

For many ordinary Chinese, comparisons are inevitable.

In a political system controlled by one party, the American race is seen as the candidates eventually attack each other on TV while a Chinese team struggles to leave nothing from the party campaign, lifting plans to elect a new leader.

"I've been political since I was in grade one, but I do think it will be great if I get to participate and get to make a decision on who I think is the best person for these positions as one of the next four years," said Guo Xiaomeng, a business student in Boston University.

Chinese delight in speculating whether President Barack Obama will defeat Republican challenger Mitt Romney, but they are more captivated by

American ability to vote for their leader. They want leaders who defend citizens' rights, they have no way of electing.

**Lack of involvement**  
The 2011 Party Congress is a milestone for the party. It will elect a new leader, but many people can only watch it on television," said Wang Xiaojun, a 31-year-old living in Beijing. "The US president is elected by the people, but we have no way to elect our leader."

At Guo, a young and energetic leader for his country (he's, he said, not, more Chinese are not interested in US politics. College, the other person's opinion is more the president is elected not by individual votes, but by the central

leader. Many by now, political news is often from the online news that was posted on the popular video-sharing site Baidu.com. Guo explained that the website is an attempt to let the people see the news that they would like to see.

"The system of the state is important, so it is that of the people," Guo said. He said that the system is important because it is a group of people's choice."

As a public politician used to democracy, Guo said he is not in the same position as the Chinese system or its leaders, but even explaining America's election system is more than what Chinese get from the media.

# Obama or Romney? Palace plays it safe

By Michael Lee White

BEIJING—Obama or Mitt Romney? It doesn't matter, according to the Chinese government.

On the eve of the US presidential election, the Chinese government played it safe, saying it was prepared to continue working with President Obama or establish relations with Romney should he win the election.

"We would expect that the current trend of US-China dialogue and cooperation would be maintained regardless of whether Mr. Obama or Mr. Romney wins the election," said.

Secretary Ricky Carmona, head of the International Communications Development and Promotion Planning Office, said.

The Chinese administration has good relations with both Romney and Obama, and is ready to work closely with either in the Chinese of the American people," Carmona said in a statement.

"We would expect that the current trend of US-China dialogue and cooperation would be maintained regardless of whether Mr. Obama or Mr. Romney wins the election," said.

# Obama has edge in polls

By Michael Lee White

BEIJING—49 percent to 45 percent among likely voters, an improved showing that indicates the president may have secured a second term.

The race will be decided in the Electoral College, but Obama has a lead in the popular vote.

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# 17 Fil-Am running for nat'l, state positions

By Michael Lee White

San Francisco, Calif. (The Philippine Daily Inquirer)—

There are several other Fil-Am candidates, in fact 12 in California alone, running for local and regional offices.

In Hawaii, seven Fil-Am candidates are running for local and regional offices.

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The 2011 Party Congress is a milestone for the party. It will elect a new leader, but many people can only watch it on television," said Wang Xiaojun, a 31-year-old living in Beijing. "The US president is elected by the people, but we have no way to elect our leader."

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# U.S. presidential election

By Michael Lee White



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## Paris

Known for its fashion, art, and culture, Paris is a city of contrasts.



### What's Hot in Paris

PARIS IS THE CITY OF LIGHT, and it's no secret why. The city's fashion, art, and culture are world-renowned. Paris is a city of contrasts, with its historic architecture and modern lifestyle. The city is a melting pot of cultures, and its people are known for their style and sophistication. Paris is a city that never sleeps, and its nightlife is as vibrant as its daytime scene.

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## London

Known for its history, culture, and architecture, London is a city of contrasts.



## Tokyo

Known for its technology, culture, and architecture, Tokyo is a city of contrasts.



## Milan

Known for its fashion, art, and culture, Milan is a city of contrasts.



## New York

Known for its culture, art, and architecture, New York is a city of contrasts.







Opportunity to prosper

THE ADMINISTRATION of President Aquino deserves praise for the credit rating upgrade by Moody's Investor Service, which brought the Philippines' long-term debt to investment grade.

EDITORIAL

The upgrade in the credit rating by Moody's was proof that "good government is good economics," according to Finance Secretary Gen. Perlasa, who noted that the decision was the sixth positive action for the Philippines from various credit rating agencies since Mr. Aquino took office in 2010.

Moody's said the Philippines' improved credit rating was based on its healthy pace of growth, improving fiscal performance, stable banking sector, and projected ability to keep its economy growing at least 6 percent a year. The economy grew 6.1 percent in the first half of 2012, surpassing the government's goal of 5.4 percent for the year. The peso is hovering at a little above 41 to a dollar, better than the P12-45.81 exchange rate announced by the central bank for 2012. Foreign exchange reserves hit a record high of \$81.5 billion in end-September, beating the full-year forecast of \$76 billion. Inflation also eased to 3.2 percent in September, the lowest rate of the Aquino administration's target of 3-3.5 percent.

On the fiscal side, the budget deficit stood at just P108.06 billion as of September, a third of the P293.1 billion ceiling for that year. A higher credit rating can mean a lot more to ordinary Filipinos because it will lower the interest rate on obligations of the government, which remains burdened with a P5-trillion debt. A reduction of one percentage point in the interest rate on those loans can translate to about P50 billion in savings a year for the government. The savings can mean higher funds for infrastructure, health and education, building more roads, schools and airports and more social jobs. Better infrastructure, in turn, will lead to more private investment, and more investment will create more jobs. The cycle goes on.

Following from this, a lot still needs to be done to get the macroeconomy growing faster. Investments must not automatically come in with a credit rating upgrade. The government must continuously lay the groundwork for the entry of investments.

And there is a problem. Despite the many positive developments under the Aquino administration, doing business here remains difficult. The Philippines slipped two notches in the global rankings of ease in doing business—from 39th from 2009—due to the absence of significant reforms to speed up dealings of companies with various government agencies. The "Doing Business 2012" report, published last week by the World Bank, showed that the Philippines registered slightly worse rankings in almost all categories related to ease in doing business for the period June 2011-June 2012.

While the Philippines continues to improve its macroeconomic environment and was pioneering reforms in good domestic policy, it lags in the implementation of regulatory reforms that would make it easier for local entrepreneurs to conduct their businesses," the report said. The problems seem to be at the level of local government units, where corruption remains rampant to this day.

Except for Luzon, which made 19th, all other Southeast Asian countries beat the Philippines in the rankings on ease in doing business.

There are other critical issues that require action. Credit rating officials have long cited reform in the "tax" system as a key component in boosting the government's fiscal position, but the proposed reform remains entangled in controversial debates in Congress. Another crucial issue is the easing of restrictions on foreign currency, which is enshrined in the Constitution and therefore needs action again from Congress. Eased to protect national interest against predatory foreign investors, the monetary restriction has become a precursor of asymmetric local investment and a deterrent to investment flows.

It has been 15 years since the Philippines had this kind of credit rating of investment grade. The previous administration squandered the chance to translate a good credit standing to a prosperous economy and a better nation. Today, the Aquino administration enjoys the benefit of hindsight for it to avoid the pitfalls of its predecessor; it better not waste this golden opportunity.



Those pesky proverbs

DO BILLEN Marston and Ferdinand S. use the same dilapidated military Filipino work? I heard the speakers' delayed reaction to the close to two-month-old corruption judgment, issued by the US Court of Appeals Ninth Circuit, applied them.

With Marston, "it is my duty to administer the state's assets properly" (highlighted) and Marston would be deemed, when the case is filed in the proper court. When Marston says "it is my duty to administer the state's assets properly" (highlighted) and Marston would be deemed, when the case is filed in the proper court.

"The Marston said it was not a step-up out of the United States' military and other work from the continued building for a 15-percent, too free, case, the court found. That would amount to an obligation against the state's assets under the law."

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But having a right-dilemma, to administer it, Marston said it was not a step-up out of the United States' military and other work from the continued building for a 15-percent, too free, case, the court found. That would amount to an obligation against the state's assets under the law."

VIEWPOINT

Joan Z. Merced

And bringing this—has failed—to add the state's assets.

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Something strange happened on the way to the White House

THE USA is in the line of the various elections over in America. For much of the campaign, the question wasn't "who's going to make the last push?" it was, "who's going to win the election?"

Mr. Romney was the answer to the second question going into the home stretch. The Obama campaign pulled him out as a man who was not only a good leader, but also a good man, and he was the best man for the job. He looked at problems like a job hunter, not the point of view of the job, but the point of view of the job.

Then he converted two huge obstacles that seemed to have him the game for him. He was the president for the handling of the war in Iraq, which he had done and high level of approval. It was a new in American politics. You don't need political skills to win. You need the will to win. He followed it up with one last push, making it a 15 percent, too free, case, the court found. That would amount to an obligation against the state's assets under the law."

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There's THE RUB

CONTRAST

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For the one of his life, every other Romney leaves that name, he will strike. This is the result of a much more telling than a group.

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### Cheer, Lucena settle for Masters slivers

MANILA—The Philippine team captured two silver and three bronze medals including in the 17th Asia Masters Athletics Championships at the Taipei City Sports Hall here.

Referee Chie Inohara won games record 8.00 points each for men 20 to 29 years old, only to lose his own medal to Japanese Ryo Shiwa (20 to 29 years old) 8.00 points.

Japan's Lucena also topped sliver in the 100m for men 30 to 39 years old, only to lose his own medal to Japanese Ryo Shiwa (20 to 29 years old) 8.00 points.

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# SPORTS

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### Davis Cup tie moved from Syria to PH

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LOS ANGELES Lakers' Kobe Bryant goes for a reverse layup off Detroit Pistons' Jason Plesant (right) as the Lakers lead 104-98.

## Lakers whip Pistons, notch first win at last

LOS ANGELES—The Los Angeles Lakers finally got their first victory of the season when they won by beating the Detroit Pistons, 104-98, on Monday.

The Lakers led the Pistons 104-98 in the second half, but the Pistons fought back to force overtime.

The New York Knicks have, by now, had an impressive start to the new campaign with a big win over the Miami Heat, and extended that with a 100-84 win over the Philadelphia 76ers.

Catania's victory scored 20 points and J.R. Smith had 20 points for the Pistons, who were downed 26-12 in the fourth quarter, making the game a 100-84 win over the Philadelphia 76ers.

The Orlando Magic produced a stunning second-half comeback to beat the Phoenix Suns, 113-94.

The Boston Celtics were another team to notch a first win of the season, following two defeats, by beating the Minnesota Timberwolves, 102-88.

Elio Lario and DeMar DeRozar each scored 22 points for the Raptors who have won 15 of their past 16 games since the start of the season, including one to a new all-time.

Andre Kirilenko scored 17 points for the Wizards, who were downed 26-12 in the fourth quarter, making the game a 100-84 win over the Philadelphia 76ers.

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## 4 matches kick off Champions League Manila qualifier

By James W. Poy

THE seven matches from the UEFA and the NCAA have already kicked off the Manila qualifier leg of the Philippine Collegiate Champions League which gets going today at the Philippine V-League in Manila.

Alabang, led by Jethro Chan, Ben Taniguchi and Shinya Iwamoto, will

the four games will against International Athletic Association (IATA) champions Philippine Merchants-Market as 10 a.m.

The high school and senior leagues against the National Collegiate Athletic Association (NCAA) will start at 10 a.m.

Jose Rizal University, which led just a ring down of the NCAA Final Four, will

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MEGAWORLD









# After storm, US Northeast confronts housing crisis

**NEW YORK**—A housing crisis loomed in New York City as victims of superstorm Sandy struggled without heat in near-freezing temperatures on Sunday and nearly 1 million people in neighboring New Jersey discovered the dark without power.

Fuel shortages and power outages disrupted nearly a week after one of the most severe in United States history flooded homes in coastal neighborhoods. Mayor Michael Bloomberg said 30,000 to 40,000 people in New York City alone would need shelter.

"We don't have a lot of empty housing in this city. It's a problem to find housing. We're not going to let anybody get sleeping in the streets," Bloomberg said. "But it's a challenge and we're working on this as fast as we can."

Thousands were forced to fill close to freezing temperatures in the streets. "Survivors" states was expected to hit the hardest region this week with strong winds and heavy rain.

"The storm is back, but we have to live," said Melissa Caputo, a volunteer who was giving soup and sandwiches to needy residents of the Lower East Side of Manhattan on Sunday. "A lot of people haven't been able to leave or get away. But tonight we will and this night is going to be the last one," US Homeland Security

Secretary Janet Napolitano said. Relief agencies are looking for apartments and hotel rooms for people displaced by Sandy. "Having a really big number one concern," Napolitano said, is a new consensus with New Jersey Governor Chris Christie.

Overnight, at least two more bodies were found in New Jersey—two dead of hypothermia in the coastal town of Atlantic City. American deaths toll from Sandy climbed to at least 173.

Communities are also growing that victims displaced by Sandy won't get to polling stations on Election Day on Tuesday. Scores of voting centers were rendered useless by the second wave of rainwater in New York and New Jersey. Sandy killed 66 people in the Caribbean before moving north and hammering the US Eastern Seaboard on Monday with 80 mph per hour (128 kph) winds.

The one more death in New Jersey—where the state state advised last Monday night—was a 77-year-old man who suffered from hypertension and a blood clot in his brain. He died of a stroke in a hospital in a Jersey City, N.J. police said on Sunday.

This raised New Jersey's death toll to 24 while the New York City death count rose to 40. In the hard-hit borough of Staten Island, Marie Mendola's house had a yellow sticker on it, meaning the city remained in care. The storm surge broke



**HEADING TOWARDS NORMALCY** People on a bridge in Central Park on the first day in apparent milding temperatures in Sandy on Nov. 4 in New York City.

through her windows and flooded her basement and bathroom, the retired teacher said.

"I'm not saying here. There's no protection," said Mendola, 60, who moved outside by a pile of her winter clothes—a sweater, television and furnace. "There's no life. Everybody's looking at it."

Similar scenes of destruction were to be seen in the Washington, a step of the storm along the Atlantic to Queens. Street after street, people were digging out from under several feet of sand and cleaning up from the del-

uge of water that ripped across Queens, flooded some cars and left homes flooded.

Volunteers made their way there to help, even as they appeared to be back to normal in Sunset Square, where the main lights were bright and flood-

ing lights were up and shining. The Federal Emergency Management Agency said 122,000 individuals in New York, New Jersey and New York had registered for assistance by Sunday afternoon, and more than 415,000 others had been reported.

Sandy was to have been the worst since the 1950s, an estimate that normally draws more than 50,000 visitors from around the world. But Bloomberg sharply cut off the visit on Friday, citing a criticism that it would divert resources from flood-stricken neighborhoods.

Without a rain, hundreds of visitors still left an estimated 100 million dollars and clothes to people in need. More than 1,000 people crowded onto two trains bound for the city on Sunday, headed for the train-

ing enough with relief supplies. Fuel supplies continued to create intense shortages across the city and electricity was slowly returning in darkened neighborhoods. Some water supply lines had been under power for 48 days.

The New York Harbor subway network was starting to resume on Sunday with commuter trains and express trains were growing numbers about leaving of supplies with cold weather forecasts.

Recent rescues from the worst of the storm in Lower Manhattan for the first time in nearly a week and at least 80 percent of the New York City subway service is resuming. But Bloomberg said it would be a "very, very long time" before people would return to transit. New York City might be back to normal by Sunday.

Most schools were due to resume on Monday. Sandy was the worst since the 1950s, an estimate that normally draws more than 50,000 visitors from around the world. But Bloomberg sharply cut off the visit on Friday, citing a criticism that it would divert resources from flood-stricken neighborhoods.

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## China's communists endorse Bo expulsion

**BEIJING**—China's ruling Communist elite have endorsed the resignation of former high-flying politician Bo Xilai and approved his expulsion from the party's top governing council.

The closed-door meeting of the Central Committee that ended Sunday was the first before Communist Party leader Xi Jinping and approved his resignation from the party's top governing council.

The Communist Party had a statement on Sunday that it was a decision to remove Bo Xilai from the party's top governing council. It was a decision to remove Bo Xilai from the party's top governing council.

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## In India, a Gandhi expected to lead stays behind the scenes

**NEW DELHI**—India's governing party has no shortage of politicians a striking resemblance to a rising star—its second-in-command senior leader. But perhaps the greatest similarity is being a party leader and a rising star—its second-in-command senior leader. But perhaps the greatest similarity is being a party leader and a rising star—its second-in-command senior leader.

But if this is supposed to be Rahul Gandhi's moment, it is unclear that he will do so. It is unclear that he will do so. It is unclear that he will do so. It is unclear that he will do so. It is unclear that he will do so. It is unclear that he will do so.

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## Syria rebels open talks on forging united front

**BEIRUT**—Syria's fractious opposition groups began negotiations in Doha, Qatar, on Sunday to forge a more unified front to oust the Assad regime.

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## US suicide rates rose sharply during recession

**WASHINGTON**—Suicide rates in the United States have risen sharply since the economic crisis took hold in 2007 and peaked last year.

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Rahul Gandhi





















# BUSINESS

## Ample power flows to Mindanao

Energy crunch eases as Steag unit goes online

By Amy R. Reyes

**THE 200-MW power supply crunch in Mindanao may have eased to ease with the completion of preventive maintenance activities for the first unit of the 210 megawatt coal-fired power facility of Steag Power Inc. last Sunday.**

In a report, Steag communication officer Jerome B. Subido said that Unit 1 of the coal plant has already started supplying 100 MW to the Mindanao grid last Nov. 4—a devel-

opment that is expected to improve the power supply condition on the island. But as of printing time, the power supply shortage in Mindanao will remain at a high 122 MW.

The 200-MW Unit 2, which is now under going similar preventive maintenance activities, is expected to become operational by Nov. 18 or thereafter.

In a text message, Steag Undersecretary Ruelito Florio M. Adra said the energy department reported the annual cost to ensure commercial operations earlier than scheduled, bringing relief to Mindanao power consumers who had to cope with intermittent power outages on the island.

Unit 1 was shut down on Dec. 5 while Unit 2 was closed for repair on Dec. 29 for maintenance and repair work. This was the first time Steag Power undertook conversion work on its power facilities since it started commercial operations in November 2006, Subido said.

He added that the company took into consideration the predicted electricity demand supply condition of Mindanao during the period. The overarching goal, he explained, was to minimize the adverse impact of a power supply shortfall on the island.

Although the duration of maintenance activities for a brief period, it would have even brought in revenues for all economic activities of the island's operational viability.

During its first six years of operation, the coal facility sustained an availability rate of 90.3 percent and a low unplanned outage rate of less than 1 percent. The company confident that it can achieve an overall availability rate of 91 percent by the end of this year, Subido said.

Steag's coal facility has expanded its electricity generation on the island and has contributed much to the stability of the grid. The plant is considered to be the largest and most modern in Mindanao.

Steag Steag Power is a special purpose company established to build, operate and maintain Mindanao's first coal-fired power plant. The company is principally owned by Steag GmbH of Germany.

## Meralco out to reel in open access clients

MARLA ELECTRIC Co., the country's biggest power distributor, is attempting to win back 1,400 megawatts for generation customers under the upcoming open access and retail competition regime.

In an interview, Meralco president and CEO Oscar E. Reyes explained that the first phase of the open access could yield as many as 400 megawatts qualified as potential in the open access and retail sectors.

The qualified customers are large power users that consume 1 MW or more each month. They will be able to choose their own electricity suppliers under the open access regime, unlike in the current system where they are limited to the supplier that has jurisdiction over their respective areas.

"It's far more than 400 customers would qualify to become competitive customers and they account for roughly 26 percent of our total market. Clearly there are others who are interested and we would like to continue to service them because we've had them as customers for years," Reyes said.

Said to them to consider to Meralco as a choice. There are other choices as well, as we just have to compete and ensure that we have an offer that is attractive to these competitive customers."

According to Reyes, Meralco, through its local retail electricity supplier unit Steag Power, has conducted discussions with qualified customers to explain to them how the open access will work and how the scheme can benefit them as end-users.

Meralco will be coming up with a standard service package to tailor fit the specific needs of large power consumers, he said.

In his client list, more than 400 customers who are likely participants in the open access scheme, which may become fully operational by December next year.

Although the open access was approved in last on Dec. 26, 2012, the assigned stakeholders and government agencies decided that they would need at least another year to ease the transition, by doing the necessary infrastructure and thus ease the rules and regulations that would govern the mechanism, said Project Executive Jose of the Energy Regulatory Commission.

Just last the ERC would undertake a 10-40 run sometime in March 2013, and extend commercial transactions based on an interim development system to take place in June.

—Amy R. Reyes

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**Power Situation Outlook**  
for Tuesday, 06 November 2010

	2010	2011	2012
Available Supply (MW)	6,182	7,087	7,084
System Peak (MW)	6,295	7,404	7,229
System Reserve (MW)	1,102	283	175



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# National Foundation Day of the Republic of Korea

## Overview of Korea's history

The history of Korea originated as far back as the ancient period of Chinese Kingdoms in 2333 B.C. The National Foundation Day is to commemorate the founding of this ancient dynasty. Throughout this long history, Korea has cultivated a dynamic and rich culture that has become uniquely its own.

In modern history, underwent much challenges and setbacks as it experienced foreign rule and division of the nation. In 1948, it established its government and founded the Republic. Three years later, however, the Korean War erupted, which brought destruction and poverty to the country and took and lost over a million of

## For our nationals

In the wake of the war, Korea paved its own way towards building its economy and became known as the "Miracle on the Han River". Korea also achieved a defining democracy, despite periods of military rule and political instability. The country has successfully transformed itself to a full democracy, opening and embracing one of the major economies around the world.

**Korea and the Philippines: advancing more than six decades of bilateral partnership**

The two countries' bilateral

KOR-21.2



On behalf of the Government of the Republic of Korea and the Korean people, I am honored to extend my best greetings and wishes to our friends and partners in the Philippines. I am pleased to see the two countries' bilateral partnership

The bilateral relations between the Philippines and Korea have evolved in shared values and experiences. The two people stand together as we fought side-by-side for the first time during the Korean War in 1950. The courage and gallantry of the Philippine Republicans in Korea (PORK) became the first ground war of our strong and enduring partnership.

Over the decades since we fought together at the Korean War, our relations have produced considerable achievements in comprehensive areas of political, trade and investment, development cooperation, cultural, and people-to-people exchanges. Last year, the two countries' bilateral trade reached \$10.1 billion, the first time last year. More than that, we are two countries enjoy the mutually beneficial outcomes of our partnership.

As we continue to develop the various aspects of our partnership, we also expect our cultural and people-to-people relations to grow, and our two countries to enjoy the mutually beneficial outcomes of our partnership.

While an anniversary like this is a good occasion, I also take the opportunity to thank the excellent President Benigno S. Aquino III, the Philippine government, the Philippine people for the support they have each people. We are sure that the two countries' partnership continues to progress in the future.

Thank you very much.

Lee Myung-bak

11th President of the Republic of Korea



On behalf of U.S. President Benigno S. Aquino III and the people of the Philippines, I would like to convey our congratulations to the Republic of Korea in celebration of its National Day.

During the Korean War, the Philippine Republicans in Korea (PORK) became the first ground war of our strong and enduring partnership.

The state of our economic relations is a reflection of this relationship. Trade volume reached more than \$10 billion in the last year. Korea remains our top source of investment. We are happy to have been able to attract \$21.4 billion from Korea last year and we are looking forward to the end of the year, we will reach 1 billion tourists from Korea. As a result, our two countries' bilateral trade reached \$10.1 billion, the first time last year.

With many two-way trade relations, Korea has been contributing to the realization of our development goals. Beyond this, we are also witnessing the broadening of our political and security cooperation and a higher number of people-to-people exchanges. We thank the government of the Republic of Korea for its continued support for our President's governance reform agenda and for being a partner in this process.

We would like to extend our support and best wishes to the Republic of Korea as it enters a new leadership role in the multi-stage leadership arena. We are proud to see the two countries' bilateral partnership in the United Nations Security Council and other international organizations. We are looking forward to the two countries' bilateral partnership in the future.

Thank you very much.

Benigno S. Aquino III

11th President of the Republic of Korea



STATE VISIT OF PRESIDENT LEE MYUNG-BAK TO THE PHILIPPINES

The meeting between President Lee Myung-bak of the Republic of Korea and President Benigno S. Aquino III of the Philippines last Nov. 11, 2011 underscored the strategic cooperation between the two nations especially in areas concerning economy, agriculture, energy, infrastructure and disaster security.

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# National Foundation Day of the Republic of Korea



**PRESENTATION OF CREDENTIALS**  
AMBASSADOR Myk Lee presented his credentials to President Benigno Aquino III last Dec. 4.

Fransisco B. L.

Historical data back to 1948 when the Philippines recognized Korea as sovereign, the first Korean state country to do so. In 1970, Korea's freedom and democracy was threatened due to the unexpected invasion from North Korea. Responding to the immediate call of the United Nations, the Philippines was the first Asian country to send troops, providing the fourth largest military contingent under the United Nations Command. A total of 7,420 Filipino soldiers of the Philippine Expeditionary Force in Korea (PEF) 1950 fought side-by-side with the Koreans and other UN forces. Of those soldiers, 122 made their ultimate sacrifice and 306 were left wounded.

The Philippines and Korea's cooperation during the Korean War allowed the two countries to share common values of freedom and human dignity, making these the basis of friendship in Asia. As such, they continue to strengthen democratic institutions and promote respect for individual rights, which are key principles valued by both countries.

Thirty-five years since the establishment of their diplomatic ties, both have achieved considerable advancement in political, trade and economic, development cooperation, cultural, and people-to-people exchanges.

The close relationship between the two countries has grown exponentially. The comprehensive ties in economic and cultural fields also contributed to their strengthened relations.

Korea is now ranked as the third largest source of foreign investment and the 6th largest trading partner of the Philippines, enjoying a rapid and steady advancement in the mutual economic cooperation. From 1962 to 2011, the total investment of Korea in the Philippines amount to US\$1.6 billion.

Moreover, the two-way trade volume between the two countries exceeded US\$14 billion for the first time last year. The export of the Philippines to Korea is valued at US\$1.5 billion, while imports from Korea to the Philippines amount to US\$1.3 billion. With the implementation of the Korea-Japan Free Trade Agreement, bilateral trade is expected to be mutually on the rise.

Many Korean firms are actively engaged in multi-sectored investment projects in the Philippines, generating employment and contributing to the country's local economy. To date, just a short list of the biggest foreign investments in the country worth US\$1.5 billion, has made the Philippines the fourth largest shareholder globally. It held more than 20,000 Philippine shares and delivered 25 jobs all over the world.

Another notable Korean investment in the



country is the Korea Electric Power Corporation (KEPCO), which owns about 12 percent of the electricity supply of the Philippines. It operates the Bilibid Island Gas Plant with 1,300 megawatts and Tañon Power Plant with 200 megawatts.

Furthermore, Samsung Electronics Manufacturing produces 7 million optical disc drive monthly, which consumes 20 percent of the market share in the world. Samsung is a two-time recipient of the award given by the Philippine government for its outstanding economic growth and for its service to the local economy.

Rejuvenating the economic trade and economic partnership between the Philippines and Korea, both countries continue to explore other key areas of economic cooperation such as tourism, renewable energy resources, and mining.

## Expanding Korean development assistance

Drawing upon its successful transformation from a recipient to a donor country, Korea continues to share its experience on economic development by providing assistance to the Philippines. As one of the major partners for development assistance, Korea supports Philippine development projects through the Korea International Cooperation Agency (KICA) grant and the Economic Development Cooperation Fund (EDCF) loans, focusing largely on poverty alleviation, rural development, health care, and infrastructure development.

Since 1993, KICA has provided US\$114 million in grants. While EDCF projects have reached US\$141 million since 1987, there more data over, Korea is ready to engage in new infrastructure projects in the Philippines after augmenting the EDCF loan ceiling from US\$400 million to US\$500 million covering 2011 to 2023. Through EDCF loan, major projects in the Philippines and Korea will be implemented.



In August this year, the loan agreements on the Jeddah River Multi-Purpose Dam Project and the Puerto Princesa Airport were signed between the Philippines and Korean governments. Considered the biggest EDCF-funded project in terms of loan agreement, the second phase of the Jeddah River Project, which amounts to US\$200 million, aims to promote the agricultural productivity and sustain the rice self-sufficiency level of the Philippines.

Similarly, the Puerto Princesa Airport, which amounts to US\$271.6 million, is expected to allow for further development in the Philippines, serving as a major tourism gateway for domestic and international flights. This facility that can accommodate an increased number of passengers, its investment will include the construction of a new airside road and runway as well as provision of airport land side.

Since Korea also provides grant aid and individual cooperation programs through KICA, numerous development projects have been completed. Among these is the construction of the First Milling and Processing Complex (FMPC) in Iloilo, which will augment rice production by reducing post-harvest losses and contribute to the Philippines rice self-sufficiency. Two additional EDCF are also being made in Iloilo and Davao del Sur.

In the past, Korea's development assistance is anticipated to become more visible, given its plans to create a system for the development cooperation and expand its Official Development Assistance (ODA) to the level corresponding to 0.25 percent of Gross National Income (GNI) by 2015. In just spirit of development assistance, the Government of Korea remains firmly committed in contributing to the development path that fully reflects the development needs of the Philippines.

## People-to-people exchanges

Over the years, cultural exchanges and people-to-people ties between the Philippines and Korea have achieved noticeable progress. Last year alone, almost one million Koreans visited the Philippines, ranking the Koreans as the top tourist arrivals in the country by nationality. Many Koreans are attracted to the scenic landscapes and the warm hospitality of the Filipino people. The Philippines is also the second home to more than 200,000 Koreans now living in the country.

Recently, more and more Filipinos are interested in visiting the historic sights of Korea. In 2011, there were more than 200,000 Filipino visitors, while at least 50,000 have chosen to reside in Korea. The proximity in geography and culture, as well as shared history and values, helped in promoting a steady rate in sister exchanges between the two peoples.

In the people-to-people exchanges between the two countries, Korea, for almost 50 years, also actively promotes the two-way flight connectivity in operation on a weekly basis, a clear sign of both rapidly growing bilateral ties.

Furthermore, the establishment of the Korea Cultural House (KCH) in the Philippines has become a major catalyst in fostering greater interaction and sister exchanges between the Filipino and Korean people. The KCH has been instrumental in sharing the rich legacy of the Korean culture and developing mutual understanding.

The recent opening of the Korea Tourism Organization (KTO) in the Philippines has also promoted to further promote Korea in the country and help connect the Filipino and Korean cultures more closely together. In addition to the cultural organizations, the business sector and customs exchange between the leaders of the two governments have also played a significant role in broadening the people-to-people ties. Policy dialogues and regional economic cooperation created an atmosphere that allowed increased people-to-people exchanges and better cultural understanding.

## Korea - Philippines relations the way ahead

Korea will continue to work and cooperate closely with the Philippines in bilateral, regional and global issues of mutual concern.

Korea is committed to promoting trade and investment relations with the Philippines. The efforts to expand the two-way trade relations as well as the investment opportunities to the Philippines will be reinforced. The strong and close development cooperation, based on the needs of the Filipino people and Korea's own requirements of economic development, will play an important role in bringing together the peoples of both countries.

Lastly, Korea will also encourage more people-to-people and cultural exchanges with the Philippines. The active dialogues between the peoples of both countries will lead to deeper understanding of each other and lay a firm basis for durable partnership.

Building upon the fine legacy of the cooperation between the Philippines and Korea, there is no doubt that their relations will be built robust on the basis of shared values, mutual respect, and complementarity of both economies.









# An affordable Korean winter vacation just hours from Manila!

It's a dream many Filipinos have: to get to see snow at some point in their lives.

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And the trip takes you to Korea. As Korean winter lasts from December to early March, temperatures drop below zero. Deep frosts and icy winds begin to blow. The falling snow and frozen ice create many opportunities for fun winter activities that Filipino tourists shouldn't miss! In snow-shedding fields to ice skating rinks located in and around the Seoul area, there's a world of winter fun waiting for you!

## Enjoy snow shoveling!

There are many snow shoveling fields open during the winter season, which can be enjoyed by visitors of all ages.



Many facilities have separate slopes for children and adults, some have tube slides for children and extra-large steel slides for two or more people, as well as the traditional plastic slides. Furthermore, at the Korean Folk Village, Inseol Land, and Everland, snow shoveling is only one of the many great activities on offer. The operating period for snow shoveling fields are subject to change due to weather conditions, so visitors are advised to check prior to their visits.

## Try ice skating!

Ice skating is another special winter activity. Luna World's indoor facilities offer your round ice skating fun, but to ice skate in true classic style, head to one of these outdoors facilities and enjoy great views, great music and great fun.



## Learn how to ski!

Korea has 79 ski resorts and they are scattered throughout Ulsanggi-do Province, Gangwon-do Province, and Jeollabuk-do Province. These are the regions that get the most annual snowfall. The world-class facilities of these ski resorts attract thousands of tourists each year who have come to try their luck on the slopes and experience the magic of winter. Equipped with the latest facilities and offering an array of slopes (everything from bunny slopes to black diamonds), these resorts have a little something for everyone. A number of these great resorts are situated just outside the city limits, allowing for quick, convenient ski trips over the weekend. Plus, most ski resorts are large leisure centers that offer plenty of accommodations and amenities.



## Have fun snowboarding!

Ski resorts also offer snowboarding, with facilities constantly being added to keep up with the increasing demand for the popular new sport. Imagine racing down pristine mountain roads for unforgettable winter fun, whether it be adrenaline-packed runs down the mountain or across gentler slopes. Then, depending on your resort and your trip itinerary, try a long luxurious soak in slope-side hot tubs.

## And enjoy all the sights and shopping Korea has to offer!

Everything from theme parks, to jewelry shops, to souvenir stores, to great fashion finds can be part of your Korean winter tour package. Plus, savor Korea's unique delicacies and enjoy a cultural experience with shops and traditional crafts.



It's up to you to choose the itinerary that will make your Korean winter vacation a truly memorable experience you will want to cherish till your very next winter holiday!

For more information, visit [www.visitkorea.or.kr](http://www.visitkorea.or.kr)

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# Impact of Hallyu on the Filipino psyche discussed

THE KOREAN Cultural Center, together with the Korean Foundation for the International Culture Exchange (KOFICE) recently launched the "Hallyu in Focus," a monthly forum that discusses the impact of Hallyu in the Philippines, gives the strong interest of the Filipino consumers on Korean dramas, films and music.

Hallyu was derived from the two Korean words "Hwal" for Korean and "Yu" for Wave, implying about the present-day wave for Korean Wave.

The forum, held last Sept. 24 at the InterContinental Manila gathered media personalities, members of the academe, film and music producers as well as other enthusiasts to look into the past, present and future of Hallyu (Korean Wave) in the Philippines to examine the extent of the influence of Hallyu in the country as well as the acceleration that happens between the Korean and Filipino cultures through this phenomenon.

Spreading the fire first panel included Prof. Ma. Concepcion Flores, PhD of the University of the Philippines and Ma. Catherine Davis, PhD of the La Salle University (LASU), while



the moderator was Prof. Alexander Suarez, PhD of ISMU served as the moderator and Prof. Dava Ed Kim of the University of Asia and the Pacific for the reception and emceed the event.

Teaching Economics was Mr. Jose Ma. Bascones of CSM, Ma. Laurel Sison of ABS-CBN and Prof. Theresa Maure of UP. Joining them was Prof. Lucio Jose Sanchez of the Ateneo de Manila University as moderator and Mr. Rina Asencio David



## 2012 HALLYU FORUM

With Ambassador Myoung Lee (third from right) are (clockwise) Prof. Dava Ed Kim of the University of Asia and the Pacific, Prof. Alexander Suarez, PhD of ISMU, Center for Business of the La Salle University, Mr. Dava Ed Kim, vice president of the Cultural Center of the Philippines, Office of the Philippines and director Young Lee Heung of the Korean Cultural Center during the Hallyu Forum held last Sept. 24.

of the Philippine Daily Inquirer for the event too.

Touching on the most popular aspect of K-Pop music, Ms. Rogers by Co of PEEP Ltd World Productions, Mr. Katherine Chay of Annapolis Philippines and Ms. Yulia Yu, the managing

editor of Sparkling Magazine.

For the film part, the keynote is attended by Edmundo Lopez Jr. of the UP Film Institute, filmmaker Chris Martinez, Mr. Sanghoon Ahn, president of Sanghoon Film Company and Mr. Inho Heung, director of

"Spillmood" which was screened in the 2012 Korean Film Festival.

Acting as moderator was award-winning filmmaker Pepe Diokno and the founder of Cinematika, Thony Aguilera, for the recommendations.

## Culture Caravan

At THE hopes of bringing the Korean culture closer to the hearts of the Filipino, the Korean Cultural Center in the Philippines launched its "Culture Caravan" project which includes special activities like language lessons, craft-making, lip-synching and traditional dancing/singing classes.

The Culture Caravan targets the young population of the city for its power run, with schools from Tagay, Pasig and Marikina as the first classes participants. It is geared towards providing the diversity of culture view of Korean culture apart from the contemporary art items that permeate the industry such as K-Pop and K-drama series.



STUDENTS from the public elementary schools in the City of Pasig learned how to make traditional masks and Korean traditional items. The traditional Korean mask or 'Masks' are made of paper, or the Korean traditional paper which was derived from the mulberry tree pulp. Typically Korean masks are built with the height of Mulberry wood at 40cm. The folk instrument in the middle which shows these ideas were more subtle, especially when faced with stronger winds.



## Cultural Immersion

THE KOREAN Cultural Center also holds special cultural immersion activities aimed at providing an overview of its offerings, as well as to introduce Korea to the interested visitors. It is a one or two-day sessions on various Korean traditional and contemporary arts such as K-Pop Dance, traditional mask making and a short language course.



THE SUMMER Cultural Immersion of the Center catered especially for kids and adults to enjoy the offerings of the Center into a one-day session to cater to those who weren't able to enroll in any of the Center's classes.



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## K-Pop



K-POP cover dance contestants

K-POP boy group 'Boyz n the Band' was in the Philippines as guest judges for the Philippine leg of the 2012 K-Pop Cover Dance Festival last July 28 at the SM Convention. The festival was part of the Hallyu Fest of the Korean Cultural Center in time for its first year anniversary celebration.

The 2012 K-Pop Cover Dance Festival was organized by the Visit Korea Committee and drew in 12 contestants for the national crown which sent the winning team to Korea to represent the Philippines in the Visit Korea Year 2012 K-Pop Cover Dance Festival in Gyeongju, Korea held on the Hallyu Dream Concert on Sept. 21-23. Apart from trying to represent the country, the winning team also had the chance to perform for the Hallyu



K-POP cover dance group 'Boyz n the Band' Green Concert, along with the K-POP stars, 'Boyz n the Band', composed of David The Musical Jr., Dan-Aro Jr., Mark Anthony Madua and Dan Sanchez, bagged the first place with their 2NE1 cover dance. Placing second and third were 'Se-yeon and Divinity'.

'Boyz n the Band' performed 'Gee' by 2NE1 and 'Boyz n the Band', later teaching the audience the joint choreography of the songs. The winners' duo group is composed of Gyeongju Kim, Haeunah Ohn, Jungmin Lee, Minseo Kim and the twins Youngjin and Youngmin Kim.



## Korean Air Official Sponsor of '2014 Incheon Asian Games'

SEOUL, South Korea - Korean Air has become an official sponsor and "Prize Partner" of the 17th Asian Games, to be held in Incheon, South Korea in September 2014. The airline has become the first Korean partner to officially sponsor the Games, with the official signing taking place on 4 October at the Incheon Hyatt Regency. Present at the ceremony were the President of Korean Air, Chang Hoon Cho, the OCA Vice President David A. Hahn and the Secretary General of the Incheon Asian Games Organizing Committee, Kim Gyeong-Hong.

Korean Air, as the official and the highest-ranking sponsor, the "Prize Partner" of the Games, will undertake major air-sea and air-transport and hotel accommodations, in a deal valued at 17 million dollars, as part of the sponsored Korean Air is awarded official Asian Games Partner status and will also have the trademark of the 2014 Asian Games.

Korean Air's sponsorship will contribute to the development of tourism and the economy of Incheon, which is the gateway to Korea and home to Incheon International Airport and one of the 2014 Asian Games. In addition, Korean Air's support will encourage participation to increase sports tourism activities.

Meanwhile, aside from the sponsorship, the Hangeul Group, parent company of Korean Air, fully supports the preparation for the Games and is involved in the construction of facilities such as the Wang Hae Woon, which will be used for parking events and a closed vehicle will accommodate the participants during the games.

### About Korean Air

Korean Air, with a fleet of 147 aircraft, is one of the world's top 20 airlines, and operates more than 600 flights per day to 122 cities in 67 countries. It is a founding member of the SkyTeam alliance, which operates with its members, offering 17 million annual passengers a worldwide network of more than 1,100 daily flights covering 601 destinations in 146 countries.

In 2011, Incheon Airport named Korean Air the best airline within the SkyTeam alliance and, with Global Traveler award for best airline in southeast Asia and best airport staff in Asia. The carrier won the 2011 global award for best airline in Asia, awarded by the International Air Transport Association (IATA) in recognition of its excellent service. Korean Air's excellent service is also reflected in its high customer satisfaction scores in the annual survey by the International Air Transport Association (IATA) and the annual survey by the International Air Transport Association (IATA).

More on Korean Air's programs, routes, schedules and partners is available at [www.koreanair.com](http://www.koreanair.com).

### PHILKOR LITERARY EXCHANGE

THE PHILIPPINE-KOREA Literary Exchange was established to promote literary exchange between the Philippines and Korea. It was created by the National Book Trust (NBT), Seoul, Korea, and the Philippine Book Trust (PBT), Manila, Philippines. The exchange is a joint venture of the NBT and the PBT, with the NBT as the main partner and the PBT as the local partner.

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Iloilo to **Butuan or Dipolog NEW!**

Iloilo to **General Santos or Puerto Princesa NEW!**

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Manila to **Catuyan (Isabela), Laoag or San Jose (Mindoro)**

Go to **Clark, Legazpi, Puerto Princesa or Coron (Busuanga) NEW!**

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### DOMESTIC SEAT SALE BREAKDOWN

(From Manila)

Base Fare	Php 288	Php 488
Admin Fee	Php 100	Php 100
12% VAT	Php 46.56	Php 73.92
Terminal Fee	Php 200	Php 200

One Way Fare: **Php 634.56\*** **Php 888.24\*\***

(From Cebu, Cagayan de Oro, Davao, Iloilo or Zamboanga)

Base Fare	Php 1	Php 288
Admin Fee	Php 100	Php 100
ATF	Php 15	Php 15
12% VAT	Php 13.82	Php 38.28

One Way Fare: **Php 128.92\*\*** **Php 401.34\*\***

\* Only for passengers from Manila (Cebu to Iloilo, Laoag)

\*\* Includes 12% VAT (excluding 12% VAT for Iloilo, Iloilo to Iloilo, Iloilo to Iloilo)

**P 1\***

**P 288**

**P 488**

\*Travel Period: Nov. 15, 2012 - Feb. 28, 2013

## INTERNATIONAL SEAT SALE

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Go to **Bangkok or Singapore**

Go to **Hong Kong or Singapore NEW!**

Travel Period: Jan. 1 - Jun. 30, 2013

Manila to **Incheon or Busan**

Manila to **Osaka**

Go to **Busan or Incheon**

### INTERNATIONAL SEAT SALE BREAKDOWN

Base Fare	Admin Fee	One Way Fare
Php 388	Php 100	Php 488*
Php 688	Php 100	Php 788*
Php 1,088	Php 100	Php 1,188*
Php 1,488	Php 100	Php 1,588*

Includes 12% VAT (excluding 12% VAT for Iloilo, Iloilo to Iloilo, Iloilo to Iloilo)

\* Includes 12% VAT (excluding 12% VAT for Iloilo, Iloilo to Iloilo, Iloilo to Iloilo)

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DOMESTIC and one way fares are inclusive of base fare, admin fee, terminal security fee, 12% VAT, 12% Terminal Fee for flights starting or landing in Manila and 12% bank carry baggage allowance but exclusive of fuel surcharge ranging from Php 100 - Php 400 and shown in baggage

INTERNATIONAL, one way fares are inclusive of base fare, admin fee and 12% baggage allowance but exclusive of 12% VAT, 12% Terminal Fee, 12% bank carry baggage allowance, fuel surcharge ranging from Php 400 - Php 1,000 and shown in baggage. Country specific taxes ranging from Php 400 - Php 1,200 are indicated at top of quoted one way fares for flights departing from international destinations.

Fares are non-refundable but refundable subject to Php 400 (excluding the tax element) to Php 1,000 for international destinations plus bank difference.

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# LIFE STYLE Wellness

Editor: Thelma Sison-San Juan

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BIRD'S EYE perspective of The District North Point development

## Community center in Negros offers residents more options

Residents of District North Point in Talisay City will have almost everything they need, including retail stores and a supermarket

By Razel J. Cruz for

WHEN IT opens by the first quarter of 2013, the new community center of Ayala Land, Incorporated (ALI) in Talisay City, Negros, will offer a wide range of dining and retail choices to those who live and work in the area. The upcoming residents will hopefully be able to find their tips in nearby Bacolod City since The Dis-

trict North Point in Talisay City will have almost everything they need.

The 26,723-sq-m property will have two clusters of retail establishments. A six-story building connected to the parking superstructure, Merces Galleria, will be situated at the northern end of the lot while a second building will house select retail and service

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CARLOS Alonzo, president of Vibram Footwear Inc., with Vibram sales representative Federico Rana

## As good as going barefoot

Vibram's 'gloves for the feet' can help you run the way nature intended, strengthening your legs and foot muscles in the process.

Text and photos by Razel J. Cruz for

IT'S A JOKE that demands attention simply in looking, well, ridiculously conspicuous. Why look like this, except this pair is for your feet—specifically with the products to fit snugly over your feet.

The design might take some getting used to, but Vibram Footwear is all about creating the benefits of a barefoot lifestyle without actually going barefoot. In other words, absorbing impacts from without cushioning them with air.

In the Philippines, the barefoot lifestyle is a true reality. Indeed, to running. Barefoot running has been slowly gaining ground in the local running community the past couple of years. Hardcore advocates publicly exposed its benefits, showing the benefits of many runners.

### Connecting form and gut

The barefoot lifestyle is said to naturally make your body walk in the way it should, automatically correcting form and gut. To see for yourself, walk around your house wearing Vibram shoes.

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## Quantum physicists are beginning to sound like mystics

The universe, it turns out, is not what scientists have always assumed it to be

could only carry out thought experiments that might in principle manifest these bizarre phenomena," is added.

What are the practical implications of the discovery of these two physicists? According to the *Nobel Academy*: "Their groundbreaking methods have enabled this field of research to take the very first steps toward building a new type of super-computer in which particles from one place to another [based on quantum entanglement]..."

Modern physics, also called quantum mechanics and particle physics, is the study of the behavior and properties of the smallest particles of matter. In particle physics, the much-coveted laws of microscopic physics do not apply to the establishment of chemical reactions.

According to quantum physics, the universe is not what classical science has always assumed it to be. And what are these assumptions? We can summarize them as follows:

1. **Strong-objectivity:** Classical science assumes that there is an objective world out there which is independent of us.

2. **Causal determinism:** The world is lap-determinately deterministic, meaning if we know what factors are acting on an object

3. *Locality*: This assumption says that all interactions between material objects happen in specific positions or locally independent of each other.

4. **Mean values:** This says that nothing is

## INNER AWARENESS



**Answer: I**

The discoveries of quantum physics have essentially demolished all the above assumptions of classical or Newtonian physics.

Unemployment

The New Physics enables scientists to explain various phenomena such as illness, rain, thickness and schizophrenia, that are completely inexplicable in terms of the classical Newtonian physics. The universe, it turns out, is not what scientists have all ways assumed it to be.

As the great Danish physicist Niels Bohr—who was himself a Nobel laureate, and “Everything we call real is made of things that cannot be regarded as real.”<sup>2</sup>

When quantum physicists tried to see what makes up the smallest particle of matter, they discovered to their great amazement and disbelief that there is nothing there. Particles exist only after somebody observes them, which doesn't make sense according to the old Newtonian physics.

And this is one of the reasons perhaps why Kuhn said that, "If quantum mechanics hasn't profoundly shocked you, you haven't understood it yet."

I do not completely understand quantum physics, not being a scientist myself, but that's not the reason why I am not or am shocked by it. It's because I find its theories and assumptions to be incompatible with those of evolution.

Even some stage physicists seem to agree with this. For example, Sir Arthur Stanley Eddington said: "The stuff of the universe is mind stuff." Many leading physicist Arthur Jons said: "The universe is one great thought."

Compare the above statements of physicalists with the ancient teachings of the Advaita sages, that this world is nothing more than a dream created during Brahmawake. And the Buddha teaching that the outside world is nothing but maya or illusion.

It seems, therefore, that there is a growing convergence between modern physics and metaphysics, between science and sacred religion. Modern physicists are beginning to sound like mystics, and mystics are beginning to sound more like physicists, as pointed out by neuroscientist Dr. Lucien Latham in "The Medium, The Physicalist and the Mystic," by physicist Fritz Capra in "The Tao of Physics". In neuroscientist Gary Zuker is the "The Dancing Psyche/Mystic", and by Michael Talbot in "Spiral Dances and the Sacred Mysteries".

To quantum physicists, therefore, just normal and psychic phenomena no longer seemed so crazy as they were once regarded to be.

The next bookcase, *Kenny and Kenzie*, is a softcover volume (Nov. 27, 2-7 p.m.), while the *Physical Mind* Symposium is on Nov. 28-29, 9 a.m.-3 p.m., at the Sheraton Hotel, 1499 1st St., Glenview, Illinois. For seminar details, personal consultation, and past life regression, call tel. 8 307643, 0625. 0670622/063. If mail, [james@mindcoffee.com](mailto:james@mindcoffee.com) or visit [www.mindcoffee.com](http://www.mindcoffee.com).



DR. SUZIE Wray Wilson, chair, Mathematics Curriculum and vice president, Philippine Society of Medical Oncologists.

Doctor confab  
highlights... 

earlier the cancer is detected, diagnosed, and treated by the team of medical oncologists the better the cancer outcome.<sup>2</sup>

At the pre-conference hotel in Eilat, Shraga La Fani, Dr. Lapid along with Dr. Eliezer May Villegas and Dr. Shoshana Shalom Tadmor shared the importance of a multidisciplinary cancer team, the latest advances and safe practices in breast cancer treatment, and the importance of integrated patient care. "We have made great strides in our approach to treating patients with cancer in the past 50 years," Dr. Villegas be-

With the advances in breast cancer screenings, treatments, management, and how even more options for a wider economic bracket via the PhilHealth 21 Stocks, there is a greater need for breast cancer awareness. Dr. Maria Llanos said to be best to treat diseases, with early detection and proper patient care. Dr. Llanos stated, "It is extremely important that we encourage our doctors to not a doctor in the earliest possible moment."

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## Science experts may be able to teach in high school

THE PHILIPPINES remains rich in science, as shown by scientists' articles in magazines, such as the *Journal of International Math and Science* and the *Journal of Science and Technology* (JOST), and, as of 2012, there were only 157 scientists and engineers per 1 million people.

The Department of Science and Technology (DOST) said, as of 2012, there were only 157 scientists and engineers per 1 million people. In other words, with all its 100 million, there are only 157 scientists in the country. But many people do not appreciate it, so they are forced to register their names from districts, provinces and cities, and even from schools. DepEd, in its drive to improve learning, has been sending science teachers to take training, and even to take science, to take the technology that they have taken for granted.

Most schools lack qualified science, technology, engineering and mathematics (STEM) teachers, especially at high school. With the implementation of the *Guidelines on the New Curriculum Framework for Science* (NCF) in 2012, the bulk of good teachers will be more needed, particularly at the high school level. In the past years, many are assigned to primary schools for college or technical students. Many have had to take science, but they are not trained to teach science. Many have had to take science, but they are not trained to teach science.

Professionals, who are STEM experts, lack one thing—they have to take the time to be in the classroom.



Dr. Yvonne S. Lee-Chen

Dr. Yvonne S. Lee-Chen is a science teacher in the Philippines.

### Scholarships bill

In Singapore, Sen. Kishore Kumar, who created the *Guidelines on the New Curriculum Framework for Science* (NCF) in 2012, the bulk of good teachers will be more needed, particularly at the high school level. In the past years, many are assigned to primary schools for college or technical students. Many have had to take science, but they are not trained to teach science. Many have had to take science, but they are not trained to teach science.

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ing leaders system by generating a wider interest in STEM among quality teachers.

To be implemented by the DOST's Science Education Unit (SEU), the bill aims to attract STEM students in their last year of study by offering them scholarships to undertake their training. University courses for teaching science, technology, engineering and mathematics (STEM) are offered in high school for at least two years.

Qualified teachers are needed to teach in a modern system of education. They are needed to teach in a modern system of education. They are needed to teach in a modern system of education. They are needed to teach in a modern system of education.

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ing professionals to volunteer as teachers.

The bill also gives the public a role in the process. It will give the public a role in the process. It will give the public a role in the process. It will give the public a role in the process.

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## UK wants more PH scholars

By Tara Quinsam

THE GOVERNMENT of the United Kingdom hopes to send more Filipino scholars to the UK in 2013, as the prestigious International Cheltenham Festival marks its 300th year.

Applications for scholarships will be accepted until April 15. British Ambassador to the Philippines Stephen Little will be in Manila to launch the program. He will be in Manila to launch the program. He will be in Manila to launch the program.

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large additional post-graduate, which will allow them to increase the number of scholars.

It is said the Ministry was tapping private companies, like the British pharmaceutical firm GlaxoSmithKline, as potential sponsors.

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## Singapore Math texts adapted to PH setting

THE SINGAPORE Math textbooks, which have been in the book trade for 15 years, is accredited by the Singapore Ministry of Education.

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## Postgraduate scholarships for teachers

THE BANK of the Philippines Scholarship Program (BSPSP) has been in the book trade for 15 years, is accredited by the Singapore Ministry of Education.

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## I have active learners

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